Area	Ore Reserves/ resources	Average Grade
Coal		
Talcher-Chendipada(W) & Patrapara blocks.	2633 million tonnes	—
North of Akhrapal & Srirampur	1318 million tonnes	—
Bagarhia-Aunli	Exploration is in	—
Kosala (East)	progress. Reserve not yet estimated	—
Ib-River Tangardih	74 million tonnes	—
East, Budhajhoria	Exploration is in progress. Reserve not yet estimated.	—

Gold Mines in Madhya Pradesh

3896. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some gold deposits have been found in Madhya Pradesh e.g. Bastar and elsewhere;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken necessary steps to excavate and exploit the deposits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) and (b) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has not established any gold deposits in Bastar and elsewhere in Madhya Pradesh. However, two small deposits of low grade have been established by the GSI in Madhya Pradesh as indicated below:—

(1) Pandripani area, Raigarh district a reserve of 0.25 MT of gold ore with an average grade of 0.6 G/T gold has also been established.

(2) Gurharpahar west block, Sidhi district a reserve of 2.1 MT of gold ore with average grade of 1.28 G/T gold has also been established.

(c) and (d) Any exploration/exploitation agency is free to exploit the mineral reserves after getting prospecting licence/mining lease in accordance with the provisions of Mines & Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and the rules made there-under and in the light of the New National Mineral Policy 1993 announced by the Government of India.

Discovery of diamond deposits by GSI in Madhya Pradesh

3897. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has recently discovered diamond deposits in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the export potential of the diamonds?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has not discovered any diamond deposits in Madhya Pradesh recently. However, GSI has in the past located a number of kimberlite bodies, a known source rock for diamond in Raipur and Bastar districts.

(b) The details are as under:—

(i) Panna diamond belt, Panna, Chattarpur, Damoh and Sagar district.

(ii) Pairi-Khariar-Singora areas in Raipur district.

(iii) Indravati-Sabri area in Baster district.

(iv) Kimberlittic Ultramafic and Bariarpur, Panna districts and Bandha in Chattarpur district very few of the kimberlite bodies indentified so far are diamond bearing.